Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation

art by
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story by
RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE

character design by
SHIROTAKA

11

CHAPTER 52

AN ADVENTURER CAUGHT IN A QUAGMIRE

WE'LL REACH A TOWN WITH AN INN SOON.

YOU DID WELL...

ERIS.

Mushoku Tensei 11

jobless reincarnation

art by **YUKA FUJIKAWA**
story by **RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE**
original character design by **SHIROTAKA**

I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I, GHISLAINE?

YOU *LIKE* HIM, DON'T Y--

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

BUT ARE YOU REALLY OKAY LEAVING RUDEUS LIKE THIS?

IT'LL BE FINE.

TRUTHFULLY ...

I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR RUDEUS RIGHT NOW.

GHISLAINE.

NONSENSE. ANYONE WOULD THINK YOU A GOOD MATCH FOR...

WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE STRONG, SILENT TYPE?

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

J

TOM

SKID

IT STARTED ALL THE WAY BACK AT THE MANSION...

I'VE LIKED RUDEUS FOR A LONG TIME.

AND ONLY GREW STRONGER SINCE THE DISPLACEMENT INCIDENT.

SIGH...

EVERYTHING HIT HIM HARD, BUT HE HID IT, ALL TO KEEP US FROM WORRYING. HE JUST KEPT ON DOING THE BEST HE COULD.

HE GETS BY SPLENDIDLY, EVEN IN A STRANGE LAND.

TA-

IF YOU LEAVE THINGS TO HIM, EVERYTHING'LL WORK OUT GREAT.

DA~!!

RUDEUS IS AN AMAZING PERSON.

SWISH

I KNEW WE WERE WORKING HIM TOO HARD...

SO I TRIED NOT TO GET IN THE WAY TOO MUCH.

BUT I WAS ALWAYS DESPERATE TO GET STRONGER. SO I COULD PROTECT HIM. SOMEONE HAD TO: HE ALWAYS PUT EVERYONE ELSE AHEAD OF HIMSELF.

BUT...

THE DRAGON GOD TROUNCED ME. I DIDN'T EVEN STAND A CHANCE.

AND SO RUDEUS DIED.

I GOT SCARED.

I WOULD'VE LOST RUDEUS.

IF THE DRAGON GOD DIDN'T HAVE HEALING MAGIC...

IF THAT GIRL HADN'T SAID WHAT SHE DID ON A WHIM...

I GOT IN THE WAY AND MADE THINGS HARDER ON HIM.

RUDEUS WAS ALL I HAD.

GHISLAINE AND ALPHONSE ACTED LIKE THEY DIDN'T KNOW ME.

THEN WE FINALLY GOT BACK TO MY HOMELAND, WHERE I FOUND I'D LOST MY FAMILY AND MY HOME.

ALL WITHOUT ME.

HE WAS PROBABLY GOING TO HEAD OUT ON A JOURNEY TO LOOK FOR HIS LOST MOTHER.

HIS JOB WAS DONE.

TO BE HONEST, BACK THEN, I DIDN'T KNOW LEFT FROM RIGHT.

WELL, THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, ANYWAY. AND SO I FORCED MYSELF ON HIM.

I THOUGHT THAT IF WE WERE FAMILY, HE'D STAY WITH ME FOREVER.

I KNEW HE WAS THINKING OF ME, AND THAT MADE ME HAPPY.

BUT UNLIKE THE NIGHT OF MY TENTH BIRTH-DAY...

I DID HESITATE AT FIRST...

I BECAME ONE WITH HIM.

AND THEN...

HOWEVER...

A BEAUTIFULLY SWEET MOMENT.

THAT WAS... THAT WAS...

ALL THIS TIME, I'D BEEN TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON A LITTLE KID.

AND HE WAS YEARS YOUNG-ER THAN ME.

HIS BODY WAS STILL SO SMALL ...

THAT'S WHEN IT REALLY HIT ME.

I USED HIM, WITH LONELINESS AS MY EXCUSE.

HOW HORRIBLE. HOW STUPID.

AT THIS RATE, I'LL ALWAYS BE BRINGING HIM DOWN.

IF I STAY WITH HIM LIKE THIS, I'LL LET HIM SPOIL ME.

I'M JUST NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR HIM.

I LOVE HIM.

AND THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO DIS-TANCE MYSELF FROM HIM.

THAT'S WHERE I SHOULD GO.

THE PLACE WHERE GHISLAINE LEARNED SWORDS-MANSHIP.

YES.

FWUMP

THAT SAID...

I'LL BECOME A TRUE SWORDS-WOMAN THERE.

I'LL BE SO MIGHTY WITH THE BLADE THAT I COULD EVEN DEFEAT ORSTED.

WHAT DO I TELL HIM BEFORE I GO?

HE'S GOOD WITH WORDS, SO HE MIGHT CON-VINCE ME TO STAY...

THAT'S IT!

I'LL JUST WRITE DOWN ONE LITTLE NOTE, SO HE CAN'T COME AFTER ME.

I'LL LEAVE HIM A NOTE.

I KNOW HE'LL UNDER-STAND.

IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

IF I GET TO SEE YOU AGAIN AFTER I GET STRONGER ...

CREAK...

THEN LET'S REALLY GET MARRIED.

I LOVE YOU...

RUDEUS.

SOME-
THING THE
MATTER,
ERIS?

?

IT'S
NOTHING.

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

LET'S GO,
GHISLAINE...
TO THE
SACRED
LAND
OF THE
SWORD.

BUT I GUESS WE STILL DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE TO TAKE DOWN A STRAY RED DRAGON.

WU

HMPH!

IT MAY BE HURT...!

Two years later...

GRAAAH...

GRRRRRRRRRR...

OH, CRAP! LOOK OUT! FIRE BREATH, INCOM-ING!!

CHING

FALL BACK!

FALL BACK!!

DASH



TWITCH

GRRN...

GRR...

TWITCH

TWITCH

THE QUAG-MIRE!

IT'S HIM...

CLACK

CHEERS!!!

CHATTER

BUT YOU STILL SPLIT THE RE-WARDS WITH US FIFTY-FIFTY!

QUAGMIRE, YOU'RE A GOD AMONGST MEN! WE BARELY HELPED YOU OUT AT ALL...

CHATTER

AHHH! THAT'S THE STUFF!

YOU SAID IT!

WITH YOUR SKILLS, YOU MUST BE POPULAR WITH THE LADIES, HUH?

WHY NOT STICK WITH US A WHILE? WE'VE GOT A RED-HOT, RED-HAIRED SWORDS-WOMAN...

I'LL HELP HOWE-VER I CAN.

THAT'S YOUR PLAN FOR LOOKING FOR YOUR MOM, RIGHT?

FROM WHAT I HEAR, YOU DON'T HAVE A REGULAR PARTY. YOU ONLY TAKE SHORT-TERM CONTRACTS, SO YOU CAN FOCUS ON THE BIGGEST QUESTS AND WIN THE MOST FAME.

MN... THANK YOU.

WHAAAT?! WHAT'S WRONG, MAN?!

OH, JEEZ, NOT AGAIN.

ぼろ PLUP

ぼろ PLUP

ぼろ PLUP

ぼろ PLUP

YOU DON'T LOOK EVEN A LITTLE BIT FINE!

JUST TAKE A LOOK AT THIS PATENTED RUDEUS SMILE.

I'M TOTALLY FINE.

ニヤァ GRIN

YOU CAN'T KEEP CARRYING ALL THAT BAGGAGE FOREVER.

BUT YOU KNOW, RUDEUS, YOU'RE CLOSE TO SIXTEEN NOW, AREN'T YOU?

SORRY, GUYS. BUT ROMANCE IS OFF-LIMITS WHEN WHEN HE'S AROUND.

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT, SOLDAT?

IT'S OKAY. I GET IT.

NO, NO, WHAT I'M SAYING IS--

I SEE... I'M THAT UGLY, AM I...?

YOU'LL NEVER MANAGE TO GET ANOTHER GIRL WITH A FACE LIKE THAT.

RUDEUS, RIGHT NOW, YOU AND I ARE NOT A GOOD MATCH. I'M GOING ON A JOURNEY.

--ERIS

AFTER ALL, I'M THE TYPE OF GUY THAT DOESN'T EVEN GET THE COURTESY OF BEING DUMPED IN PERSON...

WHAM

COME ON! WE SHOULD CELEBRATE TONIGHT! LET'S DRINK TILL WE DROP!

OKAY, OKAY! I'M REALLY SORRY! I TOTALLY DIDN'T THINK BEFORE I SPOKE.

I'M DOOMED TO BE FOREVER ALONE...

PLUS, WITH A BODY LIKE THIS...

CLUNK CLUNK

Eh heh heh heh heh heh heh heh heh...

I FOUND YOU, RUDEUS GREYRAT!

LUCKY ME THAT YOU'VE GROWN FAMOUS IN THESE PARTS. IT WASN'T HARD TO TRACK YOU DOWN.

TOK

TOK

TOK

HUH?! WHO'RE YOU?!

MURMUR

DAMN, SHE'S A LOOKER ...

...

I WAS FORMERLY A MEMBER OF THE SAME PARTY AS YOUR FATHER, PAUL.

I'M ALSO A FRIEND OF ROXY'S.

I AM ELINALISE DRAGON-ROAD.

WHAT A STUD. ♡ DON'T YOU WORRY YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD.

AS IT HAPPENS, I'VE COME BEARING GOOD NEWS.

MY TEACHER?! WHERE IS SHE NOW ...?!

TUP...

R... ROXY...!

WE'VE DISCOV-ERED WHERE ZENITH IS!!

CHAPTER 53

LETTER OF INVITATION

YOU KNOW WHERE MY MOTHER IS...?

TELL ME!!

WHERE IS SHE NOW?!

WHAT A BABE.

THAT'S THE QUAG-MIRE'S WOMAN?

MURMUR MURMUR

AWFULLY TOUCHY-FEELY, ISN'T SHE...?

HUG

SINCE TALHAND THE DWARF AND I WERE MEMBERS OF PAUL'S PARTY...

WE DECIDED TO HELP HIM LOOK FOR HIS FAMILY. WE SOON MET ROXY AND FORMED A BRAND-NEW TEAM.

ALL IN DUE TIME, MY DEAR!

YES. SHE TRAVELED TO THE DEMON REALMS, BUT...

IT SEEMS YOU *JUUUST* MISSED EACH OTHER. PITY.

WIGGLE WIGGLE WIGGLE

WAIT, WHAT ?!

MY TEACHER ROXY ALSO JOINED THE SEARCH ?!

SHE'S SO PRETTY. TO THINK A WOMAN SO BEAUTIFUL COULD TOUCH ME, AND I JUST...

SIIIGH...

SHE WAS PRETTY LET DOWN WHEN SHE FOUND OUT, YOU KNOW!

UGH

TEE HEE HEE...

AFTER THAT, WE WENT UP NORTH TO VISIT THE DEMON TOWN OF KULASUMA.

I'M SO GRATEFUL...

I SEE. ROXY DID THAT FOR US...

THERE, WE WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO MEET THE DEMON WORLD'S GREAT EMPRESS.

AND *THAT* IS HOW WE FOUND ZENITH. RIGHT NOW...

ANYWAY, WE HAD HER VIEW YOUR LOCATION WITH HER "THOUSAND-LEAGUE GAZE," THE EYE THAT SEES ALL.

BONDA-WHAT ...?

SPARKLE!☆

?

SPARKLE!☆

OH...THAT LITTLE BONDAGE IMP...

MEANWHILE, WE'RE UP HERE.

SHE'S ON THE CONTINENT OF BEGARITT.

PROBABLY IN RAPAN, THE CITY OF LABY-RINTHS!

THE SURFACE IS QUITE DANGEROUS TOO, THANKS TO THE EXTREME WEATHER.

YES, AND THERE ARE COUNTLESS UNDER-GROUND LABYRINTHS THERE.

BEGA-RITT... SO THAT'S WHERE SHE IS...

A LABY-RINTH, HUH...

THAT'S NOT TOO HARD TO BELIEVE. MY MOTHER WAS AN ADVENTURER IN THE PAST, RIGHT?

INDEED.

I SHOULD NOTE THAT THE GREAT EMPRESS SAID SHE HAD TROU-BLE PICKING OUT ZENITH PRECISELY.

APPARENTLY, THAT MIGHT BE BECAUSE SHE'S IN A LABYRINTH FULL OF CONCEN-TRATED MAGICAL POWER.

WE PARTED WAYS AFTER KULASUMA.

SO...

TO INFORM YOU AND PAUL OF ALL THIS...

BWA HA HA! I HEARD EVERY-THING!!

ALL THROUGH THE POWER OF EAVES-DROPPING !!!

YES.

TO BE HONEST, WHILE WE WERE SPEAKING WITH THE DEMON WORLD'S GREAT EM-PRESS--

AT KULASUMA? WEREN'T YOU TOGETHER UNTIL YOU RETURNED TO MILLISHION?

FWA HA HA! AND THUS DO I APPEAR !!!

BADII'S HERE!!!

THE IMMORTAL DEMON KING, BADIGADI !!!

OOH... WELL, IF IT ISN'T MY BE-LOVED FIANCÉ...

WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THE DEMON KING WOULD LEND US A HAND?

NOMF

WELL! THAT'S NO BIG PROB-LEM...

WHEN YOU'RE KNOWN AS ACQUAINT-ANCES OF THE DEMON KING.

YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT HOW PIRATES CONTROL THE SEA ROUTES HEREABOUTS, CORRECT?

YES...

THE DEMON KING AND MYSELF CROSSED THE SEAS TO THE CENTRAL CONTINENT TO INFORM YOU.

AFTER THE CROSSING, ROXY AND TALHAND WENT BACK TO MILLISHION OVERLAND TO INFORM PAUL.

OH!

GLOOM...

YOU'RE WONDERING WHY IT WAS ME AND NOT ROXY THAT CAME TO INFORM YOU, CORRECT?!

I SEE... THAT'S HOW YOU DID IT...

.....

!!!

KULASUMA TOWN

TO THE CENTRAL CONTINENT

TO MILLISHION

DEMON LANDS

MILLIS

IT WAS THE ONLY CHOICE WE HAD.

OF US ALL, ROXY KNEW THE ROUTE THROUGH THE DEMON LANDS BEST.

WHAT'D YOU DO THIS TIME, PAUL...?

THAT, AND...I HOPE I NEVER LAY EYES ON PAUL AGAIN!

TURN

BUT...

ROXY WAS BEST SUITED TO GO SOME-WHERE ELSE... WELL, I GUESS THAT'S TRUE...

TEACHER... I WISH I COULD'VE SEEN YOU AGAIN...

HA!

BUT THEN HE SAID HE NEEDED TO GO "DO SOME-THING" AND SLIPPED OFF.

WE STAYED TOGETHER UNTIL WE REACHED CENTRAL...

I SEE.

HA

HA

HA

HA

BWA

HA

HA

YOUR FRIEND THE DEMON KING, WHERE IS HE NOW?

SO...

MS. ELINALISE.

FIRSTLY, I MUST THANK YOU FOR BRINGING ME THE NEWS...

OH!

YOU MUST ACCEPT MY APOLO-GIES.

OH MY, HOW NAUGH-TY OF ME.

IS SHE A NYMPHO, TOO...?

BUT IF YOU TRULY MUST THANK ME, THEN PERHAPS TONIGHT, WE MIGHT--

OOH, IT WAS NOTH-ING!

ムニュ

WELL, THAT'S GREAT, RIGHT?

NOW YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR MOM IS.

BUT IF SHE IS A NYMPHO, AND SUDDENLY CHANGED HER MIND ABOUT FOOLING AROUND WITH ME, WHAT DOES THAT SAY ABOUT MY LOOKS...?

WHILE I HESITATE TO RAIN ON YOUR PARADE...

I DO NOT THINK IT POS-SIBLE.

WHAT?! WHY?!

THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING UP UNTIL NOW, SOLDAT.

I HAVE DECIDED TO HEAD TO THE CONTINENT OF BEGARITT IMMEDI-ATELY.

WHAT?! RIGHT NOW?!

BOW

HM? YEAH.

BECAUSE WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A NASTY, RAGING BLIZZARD.

CHAK

BWOOOOOOOSH

ヒュオオオオ

BEST WE WAIT UNTIL WINTER'S END BEFORE BRAVING THE TRAIL.

YIKES...

I WOULD SAY...THAT ATTEMPTING TO CROSS THE BORDER IN THIS KIND OF WEATHER IS NOTHING SHORT OF SUICIDE.

LUCKY I GOT HERE WHEN I DID.

I WOULDN'T WANT TO TRUDGE THROUGH THAT!

AH, THE VAUNTED NORTHERN WINTER IS HERE AT LAST.

THAT, AND...

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY. ZENITH WAS AN ADVEN-TURER AS WELL, AFTER ALL.

BUT...MY MOTHER ...

ROXY, TALHAND, AND PAUL SHOULD ALREADY BE ON THEIR WAY TO RESCUE HER.

THERE'S NO REASON TO WORRY IF ROXY'S HELPING TO RESCUE HER.

WHAT SHE SAYS IS RIGHT.

ALL IN ALL, IT WON'T BE A DISASTER IF WE WAIT HERE FOR SPRING.

I...I SEE...

BA-DUMP

I GUESS I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE BUT TO WAIT HERE UNTIL WINTER'S END...

FSHHHH

TROMP

TROMP

TROMP

One Month Later

PANT ...!

PANT!

PANT!

PANT!

PANT!

FWISH

FWISH

FWISH

FWISH

FWISH

BWOOSH

BWOOSH

STRAIN...

PANT!

PANT!

PANT!

FWP

FWP

PANT!

FWP

PANT!

HOLD ON, HULK AND HERCULES.

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE BREAK-FAST NOW, OKAY?

WOBBLE

WOBBLE

HEH HEH... YOU WANT FOOD PRONTO, HUH...?

RUB...

PHEW!

TWITCH

TWITCH

TWITCH

TWITCH

TWITCH

UNLIKE WOMEN, A MAN'S MUSCLES WILL NEVER BETRAY HIM...

DON'T WORRY. I'LL PLAY WITH YOU EVERY DAY.

BEFORE BREAK-FAST...

OH, RIGHT!



MY ONE TRUE GOD ...!

PLEASE GUIDE ME AGAIN TODAY.

YOU HAVE MAIL.

OH, THANKS.

MR. RUDEUS GREYRAT?

YES?

KA-CHAK

EXCUSE ME.

KNOCK KNOCK

OKAY.

THAT FINISHES MY ROUTINE FOR TODAY...

DEAR MISTER GREYRAT,

WHERE'S IT FROM? RANOA... THE UNI-VERSITY OF MAGIC ...?

WE HAVE HEARD THAT AS AN ADVENTURER, YOU HAVE SHOWCASED SUPERLATIVE SKILL IN EFFECTING VOICELESS SPELLS. MOREOVER, IMAGINE OUR SURPRISE TO LEARN YOU WERE THE PUPIL OF THE KING-LEVEL MAGICIAN, ROXY.

YOU MAY BE INTRIGUED TO HEAR THAT THE FAME OF "QUAGMIRE RUDEUS" HAS REACHED EVEN THE KINGDOM OF RANOA!

IT IS A PLEASURE TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE. I AM GENUS, THE VICE PRINCIPAL OF THE RANOA UNIVERSITY OF MAGIC.

AHN.

THAT'S A LETTER OF INVITATION FROM THE RANOA UNIVERSITY OF MAGIC?

THE RANOA UNIVERSITY OF MAGIC IS READY TO INVITE YOU HERE AS A SPECIAL STUDENT.

PERHAPS YOU HAVE SOME INTEREST IN POLISHING YOUR ALREADY WONDROUS SKILL TO YET GREATER HEIGHTS?

SEEMS THAT WAY.

MAN, YOU GUYS MOVE FAST.

YOU WERE AN ITEM BEFORE I KNEW IT!

SO BASICALLY...

IT SEEMS THESE STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO RESEARCH WHATEVER THEY LIKE, WITH FREE ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL'S COLLECTIONS AND FACILITIES.

FIRST OFF, SPECIAL STUDENTS ARE EXEMPT FROM LECTURES AND TUITION.

HI, CONRAD.

WHAT'S THIS, QUAGMIRE? DID THE RANOA UNIVERSITY OF MAGIC CONTACT YOU?

EVEN IF THEY ARE STUDENTS IN NAME ONLY, SIMPLY TO ESTABLISH AN ASSOCIATION BOOSTS THEIR PRESTIGE. THUS, THEY TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO CONTACT PROMISING YOUNG TALENT.

THIS SORT OF THING IS FAIRLY TYPICAL.

THEY OFTEN ENCOURAGE FAMOUS MAGICIANS TO ATTEND.

IF THEY INTEND TO ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET FOR YOU, WHY NOT GIVE IT A TRY?

I DROPPED OUT AFTER FIVE YEARS, MYSELF.

BUT IF YOU GO THERE FOR SEVEN YEARS AND GRADUATE, YOU'RE GUARANTEED A CERTIFICATION OF AT LEAST RANK D WITH THE MAGES' GUILD.

AS LONG AS YOU SEE YOUR FAMILY AGAIN SOMEDAY, IT DOESN'T MATTER EXACTLY WHEN, RIGHT?

GOING TO THE SCHOOL WOULD BE MUCH BETTER FOR YOU IN THE LONG RUN.

OH DEAR.

BUT...WHEN WINTER ENDS, I HAVE TO MEET UP WITH MY FATHER TO LOOK FOR MY MOTHER...

ONCE THEY DO, I'LL LEAD YOU *RIIIGHT* TO THEM!

PAUL AND EVERYONE ELSE WILL JUST TROT BACK TO ASURA ANYWAY.

SNUGGLE~

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

NOT ONE BIT!

AND YOU NEVER WANTING TO SEE PAUL AGAIN DOESN'T AFFECT YOUR ADVICE AT ALL?

YOU THINK YOU'RE MY MOM OR SOME-THING?

BUT THINGS ARE DIFFERENT NOW.

THE ORIGINAL REASON WAS TO RAISE ENOUGH MONEY FOR ME AND SYLPHIE TO GO TO THE UNIVERSITY.

BACK WHEN I WAS TUTORING ERIS...

ONCE WE MEET UP, WE'LL GO FIND ZENITH TOGETHER. THAT'S PROBABLY THE BEST PLAN.

I SHOULD HURRY UP AND GO SEE PAUL...

I WANT TO SEE ROXY SOON, TOO.

PLUS...

OH...THIS GUY AGAIN. I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE FIGHTING ORSTED. SO THAT'S WHAT... TWO YEARS?

.....

Hey, it's been a while.

Well, I've got a lot going on myself, okay?

But I'm glad you found your mom and all.

I TRIED TO GET HIS ATTENTION A FEW TIMES WHILE I WAS LOOKING FOR ZENITH, BUT HE DIDN'T SO MUCH AS WHISPER BACK.

You want to show the teacher you admire so much how pathetic you are these days?

You sure?

I WANT TO SEE HER ASAP.

YEAH, SERIOUSLY. IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF ROXY.

After all, it's true, right?

WHAT?

STOOOOOP!

Eris dumped you, and now you're not even a **man.**

Can you truly look Roxy in the eye and tell her that her student has grown into an admirable young magician?

Maybe you're a little better at magic, but otherwise, you're pretty much the same as you were a few years ago.

I guess you're a bit stronger, physically.

E... ENOUGH...

But all you did was swing your sword around, so it's not like your technique's improved.

HEY.

TH... THAT'S ENOUGH ...!

To top it all off...

SNIFFLE...

SOB...

FLOP...

SPLOOSH

You know I'm right. So isn't the obvious answer to try and better yourself?

WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN ...?

Then...

I'll give you a bit of advice.

I get that you want to meet up with your family since Eris dumped you and left you so lonely and all...

but if you go to Begaritt, you'll regret it.

Hearken to my words, Rudeus! Attend the Ranoa University of Magic!

And when you are there, investigate the Fittoan Displacement Incident.

Should you fulfill this task, you will regain both your manhood and your confidence.

A-ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT THAT, HITOGAMI?!

Confi-dence...

fi-dence...

dence...

IF I GO TO THE MAGIC UNIVER-SITY...

THEN I WON'T HAVE ERECTILE DYSFUNC-TION ANY MORE?!!

HISHOOF...

THE RANOA UNIVERSITY OF MAGIC !!!

WE WAITED FOR THE SPRING, AND THEN CAME HERE:

AND SO...

BUT WHY DID *YOU* COME ALONG, MS. ELINALISE?

TEE HEE HEE! SHALL WE SAY THAT I TAKE A SPECIAL INTEREST IN BOYS YOUR AGE?

I SEE...

About 3 Months Ago:

Northern Duchy of Basherant

CHAPTER 54
ENTRANCE EXAM

OFF TO THE KINGDOM OF RANOA, HUH? DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN NOW.

I'LL TREASURE MY TIME WITH STEPPED LEADER.

I'M REALLY GRATEFUL TO ALL OF YOU.

GOOD LUCK, OKAY?

THANKS, YOU GUYS.

HERE I WAS HOPING YOU'D STICK AROUND AND JOIN OUR PARTY, BUT I GUESS THAT'S HOW IT GOES SOMETIMES.

I OWE YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERY-THING ...

THANK Y--

HUH?

SOLDAT.

HARDLY.

TURN

I JUST USED YOU TO MAKE MONEY. THAT'S ALL.

BUT I'M GLAD.

HE'S A GOOD GUY, IF A BIT ROUGH AROUND THE EDGES.

AFTER ERIS LEFT ME, I LOST HOPE. I DIDN'T GIVE A DAMN WHAT HAPPENED TO ME. BUT SOLDAT HELD OUT HIS HAND AND HELPED ME BACK UP.

SOLDAT HECKLER ...

THAT PROBLEM.

IT'LL GET BETTER, RIGHT? YOU KNOW.

HARD TO SAY...BUT I HOPE SO.

...

SEE YA THEN!

LET'S GRAB SOME DRINKS WHEN WE DO!

WELL, ANYWHO, WE MIGHT HEAD OVER TO RANOA SOMEDAY OUR-SELVES.

"SEE YA," HUH ...?

WHA?

I DON'T WANT TO GET HURT LIKE THAT AGAIN. NO MORE PAIN... NO MORE REJEC-TION.

IF MY...E.D. PROBLEM GOES AWAY, THEN THAT'LL PROBABLY BE A SIGN I'VE GOTTEN OVER ERIS, TOO.

NOBODY IN MY PREVIOUS LIFE WOULD HAVE EVER SAID GOODBYE TO ME LIKE THAT... I WANT TO BE ABLE TO HOLD MY HEAD UP HIGH WHEN I SEE THEM AGAIN.

AND THIS IS OUR PRINCIPAL, GEORG.

BOUNCE

BOUNCE

I AM GENUS, THE VICE PRINCI-PAL.

MY APOLO-GIES FOR THE WAIT.

KA-CHAK

I OWE THAT TO A CERTAIN SOMEONE'S TEACHINGS.

TO THINK THAT YOU WOULD ARRIVE WITH SUCH HASTE...

AND THAT WOULD BE...?

AND I AM ELINALISE, A MEMBER OF HIS PARTY.

A PLEA-SURE TO MEET YOU. I AM RUDEUS GREYRAT.

WHO ...?

WELLLL... YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

THAT'S "MISTRESS ROXY" TO YOU, FOREHEAD GUY!

OH, YOU MUST MEAN ROXY?

HUH?! ER... YES...?

LURCH

THEN YOU'VE TRULY CHOSEN TO ENROLL WITH US HERE?!

THOUGH WE ARE KNOWN AS A UNIVERSITY OF MAGIC, WE OFFER COURSES IN ALL MANNER OF DISCIPLINES.

FURTHERMORE, THE STUDENT BODY IS MOST DIVERSE.

RICH OR POOR, HUMAN OR OTHERWISE, YOU WILL FIND ALL TYPES HERE.

INDEED...

AHERM...

Oh!

THEY TEND TO LOOK ASKANCE AT UNIVERSITIES.

MY APOLOGIES. MOST YOUNG ADVENTURERS ARE QUITE PRIDEFUL. IN MY EXPERIENCE ...

IS THAT SO...? WELL, THERE'S A LOT I HOPE TO LEARN, AND THIS SEEMED LIKE THE PLACE.

HERE, WE ARE WILLING TO WELCOME ANYONE, SO LONG AS THEY HAVE THE WILL TO LEARN.

AND OF COURSE, SO LONG AS THEY HAVE THE TALENT FOR **MAGIC.**

TAKE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE DEMONKIN, SO OFTEN SPURNED AND OSTRACIZED BY THE MILLIS CHURCH.

WE WELCOME THEM.

THE BEAST-FOLK, ALOOF AND DISTANT ...

THEY ARE HERE AS WELL.

AMONG OUR STUDENTS ARE THE ROYALTY AND ARISTOCRACY OF FOREIGN LANDS...

EXILED BY THE GAMES OF STATE.

WE ALSO HAVE A FEW OF THE MORE PECULIAR CHILDREN OF HIGHBORN FAMILIES...

WHO WERE SHUNNED OVER THEIR QUIRKS.

YES, THOUGH CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF THE HOLY KINGDOM OF MILLIS FIND US...PROB-LEMATIC.

MILLIS IS A PRETTY STRICT PLACE, ISN'T IT...?

I SEE... YOU RUN A PRETTY OPEN-MINDED SCHOOL.

W-WELL... YES.

WHO IS SHE ...?

HOW LOVELY !!

SO I MAY ENROLL AS WELL, SO LONG AS I PAY THE TUITION?!

HOWEVER! THE ARTS OF THE SWORD ARE BUT A MEANS TO MURDER HUMAN BEINGS! MA[illegible] IS NOT AT [illegible] THE SAME [illegible] IS FAR MORE GRAND! AND

...

MAGICIANS, AS YOU KNOW, WERE LOOKED DOWN UPON FOR MANY YEARS. ALL YOU EVER HEARD ABOUT WERE THE SWORD GOD AND THE SWORD ARTS HE GREATER

IT VERY WELL BRIMS WITH PROM-ISE!!

YOU ARE QUITE WISE, MY DEAR! OUR UNI-VERSITY IS A SPLENDID, WONDROUS PLACE!!

DO YOU HAVE ANY MENTAL HEALTH EXPERTS? IN PARTICULAR, THOSE WHO STUDY PSYCHOSOMATIC ILLNESSES ...?

SO, UH... WITH THAT IN MIND...YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT HOW THERE'S ALL SORTS OF DIFFERENT SORTS OF CLASSES...

I SEE...

PSYCHOSOMATICS...? I AM AFRAID SUCH THINGS REMAIN A BIT OF A MYSTERY EVEN TO US.

WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IF YOU TRULY LIVE UP TO THE RUMORS. AS SUCH, WE MUST ASK YOU TO TAKE A PRACTICAL EXAMINATION.

WHAT?!

ONE MORE THING.

FAIR ENOUGH. LET'S GO AHEAD AND ENROLL ME IN--

I GUESS THE OTHER BIT CAN WAIT.

WELL, HITOGAMI'S ADVICE WAS TO INVESTIGATE THE DISPLACEMENT INCIDENT.

NO ONE SAID ANY-THING ABOUT AN EXAM!!

OH, IS THAT SO?

PRINCIPAL GEORG IS ALSO IN THE UPPER ECHELONS OF THE MAGIC GUILD.

RIGHT, I'LL BE HEADING BACK TO THE GUILD.

CREEEAAAK...

WE'VE HEARD THAT YOU'RE QUITE ADEPT AT VOICELESS SPELLS, RUDEUS.

AND SO...

BY THE WAY, WHAT EXACTLY IS IT THAT I NEED TO DO FOR THE EXAM?

WE SHALL HAVE YOU DEMON-STRATE THEM TO US--HERE, IN THE PRACTICE AREA.

MISTER GATOR! MIGHT I PLEASE BORROW FITZ?!

I BELIEVE THE FOURTH-YEARS ARE HOLDING CLASS HERE AT THE MOMENT.

IT'S LIKE A GYM.

WHOA ...

TMP TMP TMP...

SOME MIGHT EVEN SAY FITZ IS OUR RESIDENT GENIUS.

FITZ IS ONE OF OUR STUDENTS, AND HE USES VOICELESS MAGIC, MUCH AS YOU DO.

OH, THERE YOU ARE. COME ALONG.


......!
OH ...!

IF ALL GOES WELL, I'LL BE A FRESHMAN STARTING IN THE NEXT TERM!

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETH-ER!!!

OH MY.

JOLT

I AM PLEASED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAIN-TANCE! I AM RUDEUS GREYRAT !!!

HOOH

Oh!

WHAT ...?

GLANCE

WE'RE OFF TO A GOOD START!

COMING ON STRONG IS A GREAT WAY TO CLAIM THE UPPER HAND.

NICE TO MEET YOU...

SQUEEZE

OH... YES.

AND I'M FITZ.

WELL THEN. I'LL HAVE YOU TWO ENGAGE IN A PRACTICE BATTLE USING ONLY VOICELESS SPELLS.

SO HE'S MY SENIOR, BUT STILL YOUNGER THAN ME.

HUH? HIS VOICE HASN'T CHANGED YET?

COME ON, MOVE ASIDE.

PLEASE, ENTER THE MAGIC CIRCLE.

OH? RUDEUS, ARE YOU UNFAMILIAR WITH THESE CON-STRUCTS?

WHOA! IT CAME OUT OF NO-WHERE.

ZOOM

MAGIC CIRCLE?

IN AN ACTIVATED CIRCLE...

SHWIFF

THIS IS A SAINT-LEVEL HEALING MAGIC CIRCLE.

WOW... THAT SURE IS HANDY.

SHIK

IF YOU ARE INJURED, HEALING IS INSTANTA-NEOUS.

GLOW...

I THINK IT WAS ROXY WHO TAUGHT ME ABOUT THEM.

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I SAW A MAGICAL CIRCLE WHERE A SACRED ANIMAL WAS HELD, DIDN'T I...?

GUESS I BETTER DO SOME RESEARCH AND THINK OF A WAY TO GET AROUND THOSE, TOO...

KRAK

KRIK

IF THERE WAS A MAGIC CIRCLE THAT COULD SEAL AWAY MAGIC, I'D BE IN TROUBLE.

ARE YOU READY?

HMM...? WAIT... SEAL AWAY MAGIC...

WELL, I'M NOT HAVING THAT.

SO IF I LOSE HERE, ARE THEY GOING TO GO BACK ON THE WHOLE SPE-CIAL STUDENT THING?

BETTER GIVE IT MY ALL!

SO...

BEGIN !!!

READY ...

///

DD. BWISH

WHR

SWISH

Disturb Magic!

BEAT

BWSH

BWISH
BWISH
WHAT GIVES ?!
WHY WON'T IT WORK ?!
WHAT ?!

SILENCE...!
FWISH
FWISH
WHAP

WELL...

INTERESTING QUESTION, ISN'T IT?

PWIK

PWIK

PWIK

PWIK

GRAK

WHUMP

SHWIRRR

GLOW...

SHWIIIIRRRRR...

STARE...

GAPE:

UH-OH. DID I OVERDO IT...?

I...

HOW...

HOW DID YOU DO THAT ...?

IT'S CALLED DISRUP-TION MAGIC.

YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT?

Oops.

SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR CONSIDER-ATION, YOUNG MASTER FITZ!!!

BWOOSH

JOLT

DID I MAKE HIM LOOK BAD?

AH, CRAP... THE ONE GUY SAID THEY CALL HIM A GENIUS...

PLIP

PLIP

PLIP

UH...

IT WAS MOST KIND OF YOU TO HOLD BACK AND LET A NEW STUDENT DEMON-STRATE HIS SKILLS!!!

EH?

GRAB

UH...

WHISPER

I'LL BE CERTAIN TO THANK YOU PROPER-LY, SOON ENOUGH.

ドドドドド

NOD
NOD
NOD
NOD
Phew...
...
PBBUUUUSH
THOSE WERE SOME ODDLY SOFT HANDS...
AS FOR THE RESULTS OF YOUR EXAM...
WELL, I AM QUITE SURPRISED, MASTER RUDEUS.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

NATURALLY, YOU PASS WITH FLYING COLORS.

YAWN!

...

LISTEN WELL!

LOOKS LIKE THE PRINCIPAL'S TALKING ABOUT THE SAME STUFF AS LAST TIME...

WE MAGICIANS, LONG LOOKED DOWN UPON BY SWORDSMEN...

ざわ CHATTER

ざわ CHATTER

WE SHALL CONTINUE WITH SOME WORDS FOR OUR NEW STUDENTS FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

HEH!

SEEMS LIKE NO MATTER THE PLACE, TIME, OR UNIVERSE, PRINCIPALS LOVE LONG-WINDED ENTRANCE CEREMONIES...

THEY'RE HERE!

SO THAT MUST BE SILENT FITZ!

IT'S PRIN-CESS ARIEL!

AND THAT'S LORD LUKE!

COME ON, HE WASN'T CRYING.

THE OTHER ONE SURE IS A HOTTIE.

OH, ISN'T THAT THE KID YOU MADE CRY LAST TIME?

SILENCE !!!

BUT THAT OTHER GUY KIND OF REMINDS ME OF PAUL...

PLEASE PROCEED, YOUR HIGH-NESS.

PRINCESS ARIEL WILL NOW SPEAK!

HOO...

SHUDDER...

WHOA...

AND THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT AT THIS UNIVERSITY OF MAGIC!

I AM ARIEL ANEMOI ASURA...THE SECOND PRINCESS OF THE KINGDOM OF ASURA...

THE WAYS AND MORES OF OUR LANDS VARY GREATLY.

SOME OF YOU MAY FIND OUR CUSTOMS PASSING STRANGE.

HOWEVER, THIS IS A UNIVER-SITY OF MAGIC.

A PROTECTED PLACE, WHERE ALL WAYS OF BEING ARE GIVEN THEIR DUE RESPECT.

WHAT A PLEASANT VOICE.

IT'S LIKE IT MAKES MY BRAIN TINGLE, SOME-HOW...

YOU HAVE GATHERED HERE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

RESPECT THY NEIGHBOR, AND RESPECT THIS ENLIGHTENED INSTITUTION.

IF YOU CHOOSE TO LIVE IN HARMONY, SURELY YOUR STUDIES WILL PROSPER AS WELL.

WHATEVER MAY BE THE LAWS OF YOUR LAND, HERE, I ASK YOU...

HMM. SO BASICALLY, SHE'S JUST TELLING EVERYONE TO PLAY BY THE RULES AND LIVE IN PEACE, RIGHT?

SEEMS SMART FOR A SCHOOL LIKE THIS.

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

WOOO!

I HOPE YOU ALL TRULY ENJOY YOUR TIME HERE.

STARE...

IS HE PISSED THAT I KIND OF MADE A FOOL OUT OF HIM BACK THERE?

NGH... HE'S LOOKING RIGHT THROUGH ME.

NOT GOOD... I BETTER HURRY UP AND BUY HIM A BOX OF TREATS OR SOMETHING...

CLOMP...

CLOMP

CLOMP

CLOMP

"SPECIAL STUDENT CLASS-ROOMS BEYOND THIS POINT."

...

ARE WE BEING SEGRE-GATED FROM EVERYONE ELSE?

CHAPTER 55

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

E...

EXCUSE ME...

Greep

Phew...

Pant.

Pant.

Pant.

PROBABLY IT'S THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

THEY DON'T WANT THE NORMAL STUDENTS BOTHERING US SPECIAL CASES.

TOE...

TIP

GLARE...

SCRITCH SCRATCH

GLANCE

UGH... THIS IS GIVING ME FLASH-BACKS... IT'S ALWAYS HORRIBLE TO ENTER A CLASSROOM FOR THE FIRST TIME...

SO...

WHERE TO SIT...

CLATTER

M...

M...

MAASTEERR!

WHAT?

HOW WE YEARNED TO BASK IN YOUR PRES-ENCE AGAIN!

BWOOSH

WHA?

GRIP

I-IT'S REALLY YOU!

BA-GOOM

FLING

MAASSSKKEEERR!!!!

SPLURTCH SPLORTCH

MY LIFE JUST FLASHED BY...

Y-YEAH, UH...IF I'M REMEMBERING RIGHT... WE MET IN SHIRONE ...?

GLOW...

THWOMP

DO FORGIVE US, MASTER!

OH, *DEAR!* WHAT-EVER HAVE WE DONE ?!

INDEED!

WE ARE THE THIRD PRINCE, ZANOVA SHIRONE !!

LOOM

SLAM

UMMM... ZANOVA, WHY ARE YOU HERE IN RANOA ...?

PLEASE. SIMPLY ZANOVA IS FINE!

I SEE... EXCUSE ME, YOUR HIGH-NESS, BUT--

OH, MASTER! WHEN LAST WE MET, MY LORD BROTHER WAS SO DISCOUR-TEOUS.

ULTIMATELY, HIS MANY DELINQUENCIES CAUGHT UP WITH HIM AND MY LORD FATHER COULD BROOK NO MORE. THUS WAS PAX **BANISHED** FROM THE KINGDOM.

IMAGINE MY SHOCK TO LEARN THAT HE HAD TAKEN THE IMPERIAL GUARDS' FAMILIES HOSTAGE, AND FORCED THEM TO OBEY.

MOREOVER, THERE WAS THE SLIGHTLY PROBLEMATIC DETAIL OF PAX'S CONNECTIONS TO THE **SLAVE TRADE.**

MASTER, THE TRUTH IS, AFTER WE LEARNED OF YOUR ESCAPE, WE MAY HAVE GROWN A BIT *UNHINGED.* RUN SLIGHTLY AMOK, EVEN!

HA HA HA HA

NEWS OF THIS REGRETTABLE INCIDENT DID INDEED REACH MY LORD FATHER'S EARS.

WHO COULD HAVE IMAGINED OUR GREAT FORTUNE TO BE REUNITED WITH YOU HERE, MASTER!

SWING SWING

LURCH LURCH

IN SIMILAR FASHION, I WAS DISMISSED FROM ALL OFFICIAL DUTIES AND SENT HERE UNDER THE CONVENIENT LABEL OF "STUDYING ABROAD"!

WHISPER...

HITOGAMI TOLD ME A FEW THINGS ABOUT THIS GUY AFTER I GOT BEATEN DOWN BY ORSTED.

THAT, UH... SURE IS SOMETHING, ALL RIGHT...

HE'S SPECIAL.

HE'S A BLESSED CHILD.

THIS GUY, ZANOVA SHIRONE...

AND HIS BODY'S INCRED-IBLY STURDY, TOO.

ZANOVA WAS BORN WITH SUPER STRENGTH.

I GUESS THEY'RE SORT OF LIKE PSYCHICS OR SUPER-HEROES?

AND THEY HAVE AN IMPORTANT PLACE IN THE WORLD.

SUCH CHILDREN ARE BORN WITH UNIQUE POWERS...

IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE HAD A HARD TIME...

THERE PROBABLY WASN'T ANYTHING SLIGHT ABOUT IT...

IF A GUY LIKE THIS "RAN SLIGHTLY AMOK," WELL...

STUDYING ABROAD HERE IS A PERFECT OUTCOME! IDEAL!

WE TOOK AN INTEREST IN MAGIC AS WELL!

OH NO, NO! ONCE WE LEARNED THAT YOU HAD CREATED THOSE WONDROUS DOLLS OUT OF EARTH MAGIC...

MROW?!

UH, S-SURE, ONCE WE'RE ALL SETTLED IN...

I DON'T LIKE THIS, MROW.

SOOO, MASTER, PRETTY PLEASE TEACH US HOW TO MAKE OUR OWN?

RUB

RUB

RUB

RUB

DID SHE REALLY JUST MEOW ?!

MROOOW. HEY, ZANOVA. WHY D'YOU GET TO TALK TO THE NEWBIE FIRST, *HMN?*

HURRY UP AND BRING HIM HERE, *NYAO!*

SLAM

SHUT YER MEOWTH!

MS. LINIA, THIS AUGUST PERSONAGE IS HE OF WHOM WE PREVIOUSLY--

PLEASE EXCUSE ME.

OH...? COULD IT BE ZANOVA'S THE VICTIM OF BULLYING...?

YEAH. I'M LINIA DEDOLDIA, *MEOW.* A FIFTH-YEAR.

I'M THE DAUGHTER OF WARRIOR CHIEF GYES OF THE GREAT FOREST.

TREMBLE

I AM RUDEUS GREYRAT. I HOPE WE GET ALONG GREAT THIS YEAR.

I'LL BE SURE NOT TO STEP ON ANYONE'S TOES.

Y-YEAH. SO YOU KNOW MY FATHER, *MEOW...?*

STARE

MISTER GYES! WOW! I ACTUALLY OWE HIM A LOT, AFTER SOME-THING THAT HAPPENED IN THE GREAT FOREST.

SOMEDAY, I'LL BE THE CHIEF MYSELF. IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START SERVING ME NYOW!

LIKE MY LIFE, EVEN.

SO YOU'RE HIS DAUGH-TER?!

SHRIP

SO HERS ARE LIGHT BLUE.

S I I G H...

SIGH... EVEN IF I CAN'T GET IT UP, I CAN'T HELP BUT LOOK...

WHAT A STENCH.

TAKE YOUR HELLOS AND CRAM THEM UP YOUR ASS.

TURN

FREEZE

A STENCH ...?

MASTER, THIS IS MS. PRUCENA.

MUNCH MUNCH

DID SHE JUST... CUSS AT ME ...?

AND DID I KIND OF LIKE IT...?

MS. LINIA AND MS. PRUCENA, IT'S NICE TO MEET--

HEY, YOU.

DID YOU JUST SAY "RUDEUS"?

A KID?

YES, I AM RUDEUS GREYRAT.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

I'M A FRESH-MAN.

GUY SURE IS HUMBLE.

GENIUS ?!

CLIFF GRIMOIRE.

THE GENIUS MAGICIAN.

HMPH!

I'M ONLY AT THE BASIC LEVEL IN SHIELDING, BUT I'LL BE INTERMEDIATE SOON.

THE TEACHERS HERE ARE ALL USELESS. NONE OF THEM CAN KEEP UP WITH ME.

I'M ONLY A SECOND-YEAR, BUT I'VE MASTERED EVERY SINGLE ELEMENTAL OFFENSIVE MAGIC KNOWN TO MAN UP THROUGH THE ADVANCED LEVEL.

I'M ALSO AT THE ADVANCED LEVEL IN HEALING, DETOXIFICATION, AND DIVINE-ASPECTED OFFENSIVE MAGIC.

HE REALLY IS A GENIUS.

WOW... THAT'S AMAZING!

THE SKILLS OF THE SPECIAL STUDENT CLASS MUST BE PRETTY HIGH...

WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS SOMEONE BETTER, ISN'T THERE?

HMPH!

DON'T YOU PA-TRONIZE ME!

CLOMP

SEEMS I CAN REALLY LOOK UP TO MY UPPER-CLASSMEN HERE!

I'M ONLY INTERMEDIATE IN HEALING, AND BASIC IN DETOXI-FICATION.

YOU'RE PROFICIENT IN SWORDS-MANSHIP, TOO, RIGHT?

.....

CAN I ASK WHO TOLD YOU?

YEAH... I GUESS I'M NOT BAD AT IT.

IT WAS ERIS.

THIS GUY MET ERIS ...?

?!

BUT WHEN...? AFTER SHE DUMPED ME...?

GULP

BA-DUMP

D- DOES SHE STUDY HERE, TOO ...?

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

ERIS ...?

スタスタスタ

HUH? WHY THE HECK WOULD SHE?

NO AN-SWER, HUH?

HMPH.

SO... WHERE DID YOU MEET HER...?

WH-WHAT THE HECK?

じ～っ STARE

UMM... DID SHE SAY SOME-THING ABOUT ME...?

SHE SAID YOU WERE ....

SMALL.

IN STATURE.

KRA-

KOOM

SHRIVEL

SHRIVEL

OH... I SEE... FUNNY... SHE SAID I WAS SMALL...

DOWN-STAIRS...

KRA-

KOOM

YOU BROKE UP WITH ERIS?

B-BUT IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE THEN!

I WASN'T DONE GROWING WHEN WE WERE TOGETHER BEFORE...

HUH?

HUH?

.....

GOTTA BE CAREFUL AROUND THIS ONE.

CLIFF GRIMOIRE... HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW, ANYWAY...?

HMPH. WHAT-EVER.

TORN

FITZ IS EXCUSED FROM HOMEROOM ONCE A MONTH.

OH, YOU MUST BE SPEAK-ING OF SIR SILENT.

SO ISN'T SOMEONE MISSING?

"THERE ARE SIX SPECIAL STUDENTS, INCLUDING YOU."

COME TO THINK OF IT, THE VICE PRINCIPAL SAID...

HE RECEIVES A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF LEEWAY AND SPECIAL TREATMENT EVEN FOR A SCHOLAR-SHIP STUDENT.

I HEARD HE WAS RECOM-MENDED BY ONE OF THE SEVEN GREAT POWERS.

THEY SAY SIR SILENT IS OFTEN IN THE LAB, WRAPPED UP IN RESEARCH.

KA-CHAK

OKAY, EVERYONE, CLASS IN SESSION.

WOW... FITZ MUST REALLY BE AN AMAZING PERSON, THEN.

Ranoa University of Magic
The Library

CLACK...

FLIP...

THIS ISN'T IT, EITHER...

FLIP

OH.

FLIP

RU...

RUDEUS.

WH-WHOA!!

HUGGG

BUT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...?

ISN'T IT ALMOST TIME FOR CLASS...?

HEH! PRE-EMPTIVE APOLOGIES REALLY DO WORK!

IT'S OKAY! Y-YOU DON'T NEED TO BOW!

I'M STUDYING THE DIS-PLACEMENT INCIDENT.

IS THAT SO?

I'VE BEEN EXCUSED FROM CLASS, SO I THOUGHT I'D LOOK SOMETHING UP.

BECAUSE I USED TO LIVE IN THE FITTOA REGION OF THE ASURA KINGDOM.

?

WHY?

THE DEMON CONTI-NENT?!

IT TOOK ME THREE YEARS TO GET BACK...

I ENDED UP ON THE DEMON CONTINENT BECAUSE OF THE DISPLACE-MENT, AND, WELL...

LUCKILY, EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY WAS FOUND.

BUT A FRIEND OF MINE IS STILL MISS-ING.

SO...

HEH HEH!

GASP!

I DECIDED TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN EVERY DETAIL ABOUT THE INCIDENT I CAN.

IS THAT THE REASON YOU EN-ROLLED?

I SEE...

I KNEW IT.

YOU'RE AMAZING.

YES!

GLIMMER

IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN SAY I'M TRYING TO HEAL A BROKEN HEART AND GET OVER A WEIRD SEXUAL HANGUP!

OH, SURE.

I'LL BE ON MY WAY THEN.

?

"I KNEW IT?"

BY THE WAY...

ANIMUS'S MONOGRAPH, "AN EXPLORER'S ACCOUNT OF THE TELE-PORTATION LABYRINTH," WOULD BE A GOOD PLACE FOR YOU TO START LOOKING.

SMILE

SEE YOU LATER.

FITZ MIGHT BE A PRETTY NICE GUY.

LOOKS LIKE HE'S NOT HOLDING THE EXAM AGAINST ME.

IT WAS AN OLD TOME, PRESENTED IN NARRATIVE FORMAT. THE AUTHOR TOOK ON A LABY-RINTH FULL OF DISPLACEMENT TRAPS.

I CRACKED STRAIGHT INTO ANIMUS'S "ACCOUNT OF THE TELE-PORTATION LABYRINTH."

THE OTHER TYPE WILL DISPLACE YOU TO A COMPLETELY RANDOM DESTINA-TION.

NOW AT N. ONE!

HERE WE ARE!

WHERE?!

HUH?!

To Number 1.

RANDOM

OFF TO NUM-BER ONE!

DISPLACE-MENTS COME IN TWO TYPES. ONE TAKES A PERSON FROM ONE MAGIC CIRCLE TO ANOTHER.

I SUPPOSE THIS IS THE SAME UNDERLYING PRINCIPLE THAT MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO MANIFEST ATTACK MAGIC INSIDE ANOTHER PERSON.

IT IS BELIEVED THE MAGIC ENERGY LATENT IN LABYRINTH WALLS AND NATURAL FORMATIONS REPULSES THAT POSSESSED BY DISPLACED PERSONS.

THE DESTINATIONS OF RANDOM DISPLACEMENTS DO FOLLOW CERTAIN PATTERNS. THEY ALMOST NEVER CAUSE SOMEONE TO REAPPEAR INSIDE OF STONE OR WALLS.

YOU NEED A TON OF SURPLUS MAGIC. ENOUGH TO OVERCOME THE NATURAL RESISTANCE. SIMPLE, BUT SEEMS LOGICAL.

IT COULD BE THAT TO DISPLACE A PERSON'S BODY TO A SPOT WHERE SOMETHING ALREADY EXISTS...

HMM...MAGIC FORCES REPULSING EACH OTHER...

WELL, THE FITTOA INCIDENT DEFINITELY HAS ALL THE HALLMARKS OF A RANDOM DISPLACEMENT...

CLUNK

I'LL GET A FEW READY AND COME BACK TOMORROW.

IF I'M GOING TO RESEARCH THIS SERIOUSLY, I'M GOING TO NEED SOME NOTEBOOKS.

YAWN...

SO THE MEN'S DORM IS...

YAWN...

MAYBE THIS WAY?

OH...

FWIP

THE PATH'S GLOWING ...

SNATCH

EEEE

P...

P...

HUH ?!

?!!

PANTY THIEF!!!!

SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH

SIGH...

IT'S NO GOOD. JUST CAN'T SEEM TO CONCEN-TRATE ON STUDYING TODAY.

THWOP...

AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF HIM... IT'S ALL RUDEUS'S FAULT.

SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH...

SIDE STORY

CLIFF GRIMOIRE

I AM CLIFF GRIMOIRE, AGE SIXTEEN.

I WAS RAISED IN AN ORPHANAGE IN MILLIS, UNTIL I WAS TAKEN IN BY THE MILLIS POPE, HARRY GRIMOIRE.

I CAME TO THINK OF HIM AS MY GRANDFATHER. HE TOOK ME IN AND EDUCATED ME, A GIFTED CHILD WORTHY OF BEING HIS SUCCESSOR. I PROVED MYSELF TO BE A TRUE GENIUS.

FOUR YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS TWELVE ...

I RAN AWAY FROM HOME AFTER GROWING INFATUATED WITH THE IDEA OF ADVENTURE.

I HEADED STRAIGHT TO THE ADVENTURERS' GUILD.

I HEARD THAT TALENTED MAGICIANS WERE IN GREAT DEMAND.

AND I WAS MORE THAN TALENTED! I WAS A GENIUS.

I THOUGHT IT'D BE EASY TO FORM A PARTY.

NEWBIE

THAT'S A NO-GO.

HUH? NAH, OUR RANKS ARE WAY TOO FAR APART.

C Rank

WHY? I'M AS GOOD AS AN A-RANK, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW!

SHOCK

F Rank

GRAB

WHAT'D YOU SAY, YOU LITTLE BRAT?!

HUH ?!

SNAP

YOU SHOULD THANK ME FOR BEING WILLING TO JOIN YOUR BRAINLESS PARTY!

KRIK

KRAK

THAT'S ENOUGH. AREN'T YOU AN ADULT?

CLAW THY WAY TO EARTH AND RAISE THINE FISTS, HERE AND NOW!

GRAVE FAIRY OF FIRE, BLACK SPAWN WHOSE NAME ECHOES THROUGH THE DEPTHS OF HELL!

THIS IS HOW THE BEAU-TEOUS ERIS AND I MET.

Exodus Flame !!!

SMITE THY SWORN ENEMY! BURN! DEVOUR! PAINT EV-ERYTHING BLACK!

FWOOM

ISN'T MY MAGIC AMAZING ?!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, MISS ERIS?!

HUH ?!

HMPH!

THAT'S IT? YOU'RE NOT AMAZING AT ALL.

HOW TRAGIC. THE POOR DEAR.

I SEE! MISS ERIS LACKS THE EDUCATION AND THEORETICAL FOUNDATION TO GRASP MY GREATNESS!

I'M TESTING MY STRENGTH ON A FREE GOBLIN-HUNTING QUEST, AND...

ARE YOU LISTENING?

NOT TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT, BUT WHY'RE YOU FOLLOWING ME?

THIS'S WEIRD...ALL MY TEACHERS ALWAYS TALKED ABOUT HOW GREAT I WAS...

I CAN USE ADVANCED MAGIC, AND I'M ONLY THIS OLD! BUT NOW...

OH!

WHERE'D YOU GET *THAT* FROM?!

I, CLIFF, THE GENIUS MAGICIAN, WILL DEIGN TO HELP YOU, MISS ERIS!

WELL, I GUESS THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO!

SIIIGH...

I SHALL SOON SHOW YOU JUST HOW AMAZING I REALLY AM!

FLY? I CAN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

FLY UP INTO THE AIR AND GIVE ME AN IDEA.

I WANT TO KNOW HOW FAR WE ARE FROM MILLISHION.

LUMP

TROMP TROMP TROMP

UH, SO...CLIFF, WAS IT?

OH?

RUDEUS WOULD'VE DONE IT.

VOICELESS, TOO.

MY TEACHER.

RUDEUS?! WHO'S THAT?!

IF YOU LEAVE THINGS UP TO HIM, THEY'LL ALWAYS TURN OUT GREAT!

RUDEUS IS AMAZING, YOU KNOW!

HE'S SHORTER THAN ME, BUT HE'S A GREAT SWORDSMAN EVEN THOUGH HE'S A MAGE!

WHAT? SHE'S BRAGGING ABOUT SOME OTHER GUY INSTEAD OF ME, THE GENIUS... DOES SHE NOT SEE THE GLORY THAT STANDS BEFORE HER?

HE NEEDS TIME TO HIMSELF...

RUDEUS'S GOING THROUGH A TOUGH TIME THANKS TO SOME PROBLEMS WITH HIS DAD.

I'LL SHOW YOU HOW MUCH BETTER I--

PLEASE LET ME MEET THAT RUDEUS GUY!

NO.

?

MISS ERIS ...?

SHH!

DUCK!!

DIIIII

BWSH

URPH!

CLANG

ZWAASH

ACK!

OF COURSE.

FOOLS! DO YOU NOT KNOW WHO THIS IS?

YOU KNAVES! ARE YOU WITH THE PAPAL FACTION?!

THEN THE TWO THEY CORNERED ARE THE PRIESTESS WHO'S A CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED HIM AS POPE AND HER PALADIN GUARD!

THE POPE'S FACTION... THAT MEANS THE ONE IN BLACK IS ONE OF GRAND-FATHER'S ASSASSINS ...

THOSE GUYS ARE GRANDF-- THOSE ARE THE MILLIS POPE'S ASSASSINS, YOU KNOW!

WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO, MISS ERIS?!

SHOCK

CHIK

NO.

WE HAVE TO RUN FAST, OR...

DEAD END'S RUIJERD WOULD NEVER LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THAT.

THEY'RE ATTACKING A KID.

BWOOSH

"I CAN'T JUST SIT HERE AND WATCH THEM ATTACK THAT KID."

MISS ERIS!!

SHE SIMPLY SPOKE THOSE WORDS, LEAPED INTO ACTION...

AND CUT DOWN EVERY LAST ASSASSIN IN AN INSTANT.

THE WAY SHE LOOKED THEN...

BWSH-

BWSH

HMPH!

EEP!

ROLL

...OOOH

WAS JUST TOO...

SORRY. I LOST ONE.

TOO BEAUTIFUL...

IT WAS...

AND SHE STOLE MY HEART.

SHE STOLE THEIR LIVES...

WHAT ?!

NO WAY! NOT IN A MILLION YEARS!

MISS ERIS!

PLEASE MARRY ME!!

ARE YOU ALREADY ENGAGED TO THAT RUDEUS FELLOW OR SOMETHING ?!

WHY NOT?! HOW CAN YOU TURN DOWN AN OFFER OF MARRIAGE FROM A GENIUS LIKE ME?!

AND SO I FELL IN LOVE AND GOT RE-JECTED-- ALL IN ONE DAY.

TUMP TUMP

KRA-KOOM



FOR MY OWN SAFETY, I WENT TO STUDY ABROAD IN RANOA.

AFTER THAT, THE POWER STRUGGLES WITHIN MILLIS IN-TENSIFIED.

WITH SUCH A CRASS, PETTY, PEDESTRIAN MAN?

BUT HOW COULD MISS ERIS, SO STRONG AND BEAUTEOUS, FALL SO COMPLETELY IN LOVE...

WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT I'D MEET RUDEUS IN RANOA.

WAS SOME-THING LIKE DESTINY.

TO ME, MEETING MISS ERIS...

SMILE

DESTINY...

Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation

MUSHOKU TENSEI

WILL SOON BE AN ANIMATED SERIES!

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR IT!

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

.....!

SLURP

DON'T YOU AGREE, FITZ?

OH MY. THIS HAS SUCH A FUN, CHEWY MOUTH-FEEL.

IT IS DELI-CIOUS, IS IT NOT?

THE GIRLS WERE TELLING ME THAT BOBA TEA SEEMS REALLY POPULAR IN TOWN RIGHT NOW.

MRAWR!

NANAHOSHIYAKI (FRIED CHICKEN) WOULD TASTE WAY BETTER IN THIS THAN BOBA.

PLUNK

PLUNK

PLUNK

YOU STUPID MEAT-LOVER !!!

YOU RUINED MY TEA!

.....

BOBA TEA IS REALLY POPULAR IN TOWN RIGHT NOW...

MROW, DID YOU KNOW, PRUCENA?

EHEHEHEH!

MUNCH MUNCH





SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation volume 11

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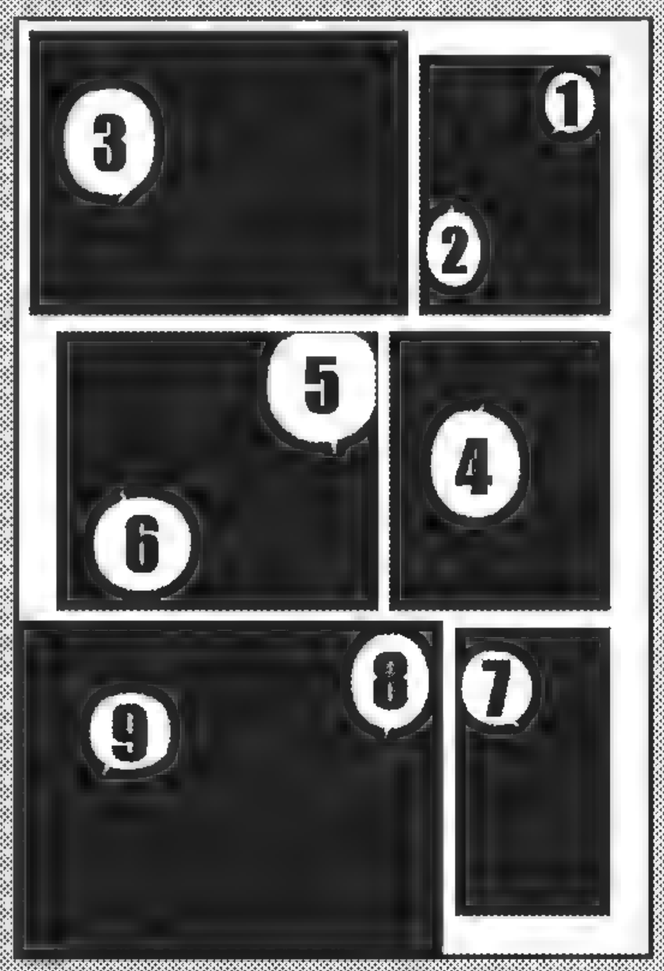
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



CAUGHT IN A QUAGMIRE

Two years have passed since Rudeus bitterly parted ways with Eris, the girl he loves. Now he wanders the north as an adventurer for hire, searching for any sign of his mother, Zenith. He finally gets the clue he's been looking for from a friend of his old magic tutor, along with an unexpected invitation: a chance to attend the famous Ranoa University of Magic.



TEEN

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A PANTY THIEF ?!

BAM!!!

THMP

NOT AGAIN !!

TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP

DOON

CHAPTER 56

COOPERATION

THIS IS JUST A MISUNDER-STANDING ...

LIKELY STORY!

UH...

LISTEN ...

GRIP

YOU GONNA CLAIM WRONG PLACE, WRONG TIME? THEN WHAT'S THAT IN YOUR HAND, HUH?

STOMP

PER-VERTED PIECE OF TRASH !!!

STOMPOOO

OOK!

WELL?

YOU...

JOLT

AN APE-GIRL ?!

UGH! HOW AWFUL!

THAT'S PRINCESS ARIEL'S UNDER-WEAR, ISN'T IT?!

SHUT UP, YOU PER-VERT !!

NO, YOU SEE, THAT IS...

BUT THEY WON'T EVEN LET ME EXPLAIN ...!

WHAT?! I MEAN, SURE, I'LL BE THE FIRST TO ADMIT I'M A TOTAL PERV...

I'M SO SCARED ...!

WHAT DO I DO?

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

HUDDLE

HUDDLE

SHUDDER

WHAT SHOULD I--

I'LL MAKE YOU REGRET THIS. REGRET IT SO MUCH YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO DO THIS AGAIN.

YANK

WHAT SHOULD I DO?!

GET OVER HERE.

WAIT
!!!

YOU'RE--

WHAT?

PANT!

PANT!

SIR FITZ ?!

UNHAND HIM AT ONCE!!!

HH

ZWSH
!!

SIR FITZ SPOKE OUT LOUD!

WHAT A LOVELY VOICE ...

OH, MAN! IT'S FITZ!

!

GULP

ERGH.

I'M SORRY. THAT UNDER-WEAR...

I DROPPED IT WHILE TRYING TO HANG IT UP TO DRY.

HE JUST PICKED IT UP FOR ME.

THAT'S ALL. SO PLEASE LET HIM GO.

HUMPH.

SNORT

HMM? WHY'S FITZ, A GUY, HANGING UP THE PRIN-CESS'S UNDER-WEAR...?

WHAT?! WHAT RULE? THERE WAS A RULE?!

BUT HE BROKE THE RULES.

SIR FITZ.

I KNOW YOU DO THE PRIN-CESS'S LAUNDRY.

LEER...

FITZ, YOU'RE MY HERO...!

I'M ASKING YOU, PLEASE LET THIS GO.

HE'S STILL A NEW STUDENT AND DOESN'T KNOW ALL THE MINUTIAE.

GLARE!!!

BUT HE *DID* BREAK THE RULES.

FITZ ALMOST NEVER SPEAKS, AND YET HERE HE IS MAKING EXCUSES FOR YOU.

I GUESS IT MUST BE THE TRUTH.

Phew...

GRAB

WE GOTTA MAKE AN EXAMPLE OUT OF HIM.

AND *PUNISH* HIM.

I TOLD YOU, IT'S NOT HIS FAULT.

LET HIM GO...!

OR...

FITZ ...!

TO END UP IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE ...?

DO YOU WANT EVERY-ONE HERE...

VERY WELL, SIR FITZ. SO YOU CAN SAVE FACE, I'LL BACK DOWN FOR TODAY.

SPLAT

BLARGH!!

HMPH!

OH MAN... FITZ, YOU ARE JUST TOO COOL!!

NGH!

NEXT TIME I SEE YOU, I'M NOT PULLING ANY PUNCHES!!

BUT AS FOR YOU!!

PHEW. MISS GORILLIARDE NEVER LISTENS TO WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAY...

GORILLIARDE?!

TROMP TROMP...

GRAB

SORRY, THIS WAS ALL MY FAULT.

HARDLY.

YOU REALLY SAVED ME BACK THERE.

OH, NOTH-ING.

FWIP

?

SAVED ME, HE SAYS!

IF YOU GOT SERIOUS, *THEY* WERE THE ONES WHO WOULD'VE GOTTEN HURT.

SO THIN...

OH, I GET IT.

I GOT ALL BIG-HEADED THINKING HE DID IT ALL FOR ME.

MAN, WAY TO GO.

SO ACTUALLY...

FITZ SMOOTHED THINGS OVER BECAUSE HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE GIRLS' SAFETY.

BUT WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT "THE RULES," ANYWAY...?

OH, IT'S SOMETHING THE TWO DORMS AGREED UPON.

THE RULE IS THAT AFTER THE SUN GOES DOWN, THE GUYS CAN'T COME NEAR THE GIRLS' DORM.

BOYS HAVE TO GO THE LONG WAY AROUND.

THANKS AGAIN FOR SAVING ME.

I HAD NO IDEA.

IT'S JUST ONE OF THOSE LOCAL THINGS, THEN...

HUH? WHY IS THAT?

AH HA HA ...

IT FEELS STRANGE WHEN YOU THANK ME, RUDEUS.

WELL... IT'S A SECRET.

BA-DMP

WHAT IS THIS ...?

...?

BA-DMP

BA-DUMP

SILENT FITZ, HUH...

BOW

BE CAREFUL NOW, OKAY? SEE YOU.

YOU'RE NOT EVEN MAD ABOUT THE EXAM.

YOU TREAT ME LIKE AN EQUAL AND EVEN SAVE ME.

WHAT A GUY.

FITZ...

THAT'S RIGHT. FROM NOW ON, WHEN I SPEAK THE NAME OF SIR FITZ, I'LL DO IT WITH THE UTMOST RESPECT.

WHAT AN INCIDENT THAT WAS LAST EVENING!

WE SEE.

IT WAS AWFUL.

YOU SAID IT.

EEK!♡♡♡

OH, BUT ABOUT FITZ--

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

WE SHOULD HAVE EXPLAINED THE DORM RULES TO YOU.

WE WERE REMISS.

SORRY, LADIES. I HAVE A RULE. NO MORE THAN TWO GIRLS ON A SINGLE DATE.

I MEAN, I ONLY HAVE TWO ARMS, RIGHT?

AWW, TOO BAD.

OH, NO FAIR! I'M THE NEXT IN LINE!

NEXT TIME, LORD LUKE, I WANT YOU TO GO ON A DATE WITH *ME!*

MAN, DID HE REALLY JUST SAY THAT?

WHAT WAS...

PEER

AREN'T YOU FITZ'S...

YOU...

THE PLAYER THAT REMINDS ME OF PAUL...!

HE WAS NEXT TO THE CLASS PRESIDENT AT THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY...

YEAH, I HEARD IT ALL FROM FITZ AL-READY.

YOU'RE PRETTY FORGETFUL, AREN'T YOU?

SWOOP

I AM RUDEUS GREYRAT!

IT IS MY PLEASURE TO MEET YOU!

UMM... IF YOU DON'T MIND, MAY I HAVE YOUR NAME...?

ICK.

UGH.

Huff!

I HEARD YOU WASTED NO TIME MAKING A SCENE AT THE GIRLS' DORMS, HUH?

OH, AND...

?

FORGET-FUL...? WHAT'S HE TALK-ING ABOUT ...?

WHAT?! YOU DON'T KNOW OF LORD LUKE?! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

NOW, NOW.

NO, THAT'S NOT...

HMPH! YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU ARE UNWORTHY TO HAVE HEARD MY NAME?

GREY-RAT. THAT'S ME.

LUKE.

NOTOS.

HII!!! POINT

REMEMBER THAT WELL, RUDEUS *PLAIN* GREYRAT.

NOTOS... THAT'S THE HOUSE THAT PAUL WAS DIS-INHERITED FROM...

LOOK AT HIS ROBE, IT'S ALL RATTY AND LAME.

AND, LIKE, HE'S A TOTAL LOSER.

EEK!

YOU'RE SO COOL, LORD LUKE. ♡

NOW, LET US GO, MY PRIN-CESSES.

MY COUSIN, WOULDN'T IT?

SO THAT WOULD MAKE HIM...

S-I-I-I-G-H...

THAT WAS LUKE.

ONE OF PRINCESS ARIEL'S GUARDS.

A TROUBLE-MAKER HAS THEIR EYE ON YOU, IS IT NOT SO, MASTER?

WE HEAR SHE LOST THE BATTLE FOR THE SUCCES-SION.

SHE ESCAPED HERE TO RANOA UNDER THE GUISE OF STUDYING ABROAD.

PRINCESS ARIEL IS THE CLASS PRESIDENT AND THE SECOND PRINCESS OF ASURA, RIGHT?

WHY IS HER HIGH-NESS HERE?

YOU'VE ALREADY MET HER GUARDS.

THE YEOMAN KNIGHT, LUKE NOTOS GREYRAT...

AND THE STALWART RETAINER, SILENT FITZ. THOSE TWO.

LUKE IS THE SECOND SON OF THE HOUSE OF NOTOS AND WAS TRAINED TO BE A GUARDIAN KNIGHT FROM THE MOMENT HE WAS BORN.

IT'S SAID HE CONTINUES IN THIS ROLE TO ENSURE THE PRINCESS NEVER SEEKS THE THRONE AGAIN.

OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I HEARD.

KLAK

AND THE OTHER ONE, SILENT FITZ...

THOSE EYES...

HE'S AN AMAZING VOICELESS MAGE WITH THE WHITE HAIR OF ELVEN-KIND.

EVERY-THING ELSE IS A MYSTERY.

3 3

PUFF

ARIEL AND HER RETAINERS ACTIVELY HIDE HIS ORIGINS, FURTHER OBSCURING THE TRUTH.

WHERE HE WAS BORN.

HOW HE WAS RAISED.

ALL SECRET. FEW CAN EVEN TEACH THE TECHNIQUE OF VOICELESS MAGIC. WHERE DID HE LEARN IT?

THEIR SKILLS QUIETLY CULTIVATED WITHIN THE ASURAN ROYAL HOUSE-HOLD...

SOME RUMORS HOLD HE IS PART OF A SECRET ORDER OF HEARTLESS ASSAS-SINS...

OF COURSE, *OUR* ENVY IS FOCUSED ENTIRELY UPON *YOU*, MASTER!

CLEAM

UH, THANKS ...

HE'S BEEN ENVIED, FEARED, AND RESPECTED FROM THE MOMENT HE ENROLLED.

THANKS TO SUCH RUMORS ...

WOW.

AN ORDER OF ASSASSINS, HUH...? FROM MY LITTLE CHAT WITH HIM...

I'D SAY HE DOESN'T GIVE OFF THAT VIBE AT ALL...

HURCH

SCRITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH

SILENT FITZ...YOU JUST GET MORE AND MORE MYS-TERIOUS...

KLOK
KLOK
KLOK
KLOK

IS THAT SEAT NEXT TO YOU FREE?

HELLO, RUDEUS.

SWF

PLEASE, PLEASE. I'VE WARMED IT UP FOR YOU.

DON'T BE A STRAN-GER.

SIR FITZ.

HE'S A PRETTY SMOOTH GUY...

AH HA HA. SORRY ABOUT THAT.

THWUP

LEAN

SO...

HOW'S THE RE-SEARCH GOING?

NOT THAT I'D EXPECT ANY LESS.

WOW, YOU'VE ALREADY GOT THE JIST OF IT.

NNGH... WHY DOES FITZ SMELL SO NICE...?

RUSTLE

WHOA, SLOW DOWN, ME! HE'S A GUY! A GUY!

RUSTLE

UHH...

I LEARNED THAT DIS-PLACEMENTS SUCH AS THE ONE EXPERI-ENCED BY THE FITTOA REGION HAVE OCCURRED A NUMBER OF TIMES IN THE PAST.

YES ?!

RUDEUS?

THOUGH THEY WERE ALL ON A SMALLER SCALE.

ONE DAY, SOMEONE WOULD DISAPPEAR ALL OF A SUDDEN AND THEN REAPPEAR LATER ON.

THINGS LIKE THAT.

SOUNDS LIKE IT HAPPENS EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE IN THIS WORLD...

HMM?

IT'S LIKE BEING SPIRITED AWAY, HUH?

ARE YOU RESEARCHING IT UNDER ORDERS FROM THE PRINCESS?

FITZ, IS THAT BOOK RELATED TO DISPLACE-MENTS?

YEP.

HMM...

SOMEONE I KNEW GOT DISPLACED, TOO...

TO BE HONEST...

LATELY, I HEARD THEY'RE STILL ALIVE.

DON'T WORRY.

OH, IS THAT SO?

THAT IS... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...

BEFORE I HEARD, I TRIED RESEARCHING DISPLACEMENTS, TOO.

I FIGURED IF I LEARNED MORE ABOUT WHERE DISPLACEMENTS TEND TO GO AND HOW THEY WORK...

THEN MAYBE IT'D BE EASIER TO FIND HIM...OR SOMETHING.

SHAKE SHAKE

YOU'RE WRONG.

I SEE... I NEVER THOUGHT OF IT LIKE THAT UNTIL RECENTLY.

THE THING IS...I WAS NEVER ABLE TO GO LOOKING...

DROOP...

YOU'RE AMAZING AS ALWAYS, FITZ.

YEP.

SURE DOES...

WELL, I DOUBT THAT WAS YOUR FAULT.

AFTER ALL, BEING THE PRINCESS'S GUARDSMAN MUST KEEP YOU AWFULLY BUSY.

TWIDDLE

TWIDDLE

UM.

D-DO YOU... NEED AN ADVI-SOR...?

YOU KNOW, RUDEUS.

?

FOR WHAT ...?

ガバッ

CLUTCH

PLEASE ...

F...

FITZ ...?

RUDEUS, LET ME HELP YOU!

LET ME HELP YOU RE-SEARCH THE DIS-PLACEMENT INCIDENT !!

The story continues in Volume 12!

Special Interview

TELL ME, SENSEI!

The magic school chapters have begun!! Rudeus, with his heart still hurting, enrolls in class—where his new life is full of unexpected excitement. This time we'll focus on the author and artist's own school lives!



Q. Please think back to your days in school! Did you shine more during the school festivals or field days?

<Fujikawa-Sensei, Manga Artist>
If I had to say, I guess at the school festivals. I kind of think that rather than the festival day itself, making decorations in the time leading up to it before was more fun. But my memories of the past are pretty spotty these days, so part of me wonders what I'll do if it all turns out to have been a figment of my imagination. ...Scary stuff. Way too scary!



<Rifujin na Magonote-Sensei, Original Author>
When you say memories of school, I think mostly of my high school days. I joined the computer club (all students had to join a club) because I thought it'd be fun, but it was awfully serious about earning its qualifications. Starting from day one I had to do stuff like bookkeeping, even though it was a computer club! But thanks to that, I could balance the books, so I think I did really well when we did stores for our school festivals and stuff.

Q. If you were a freshman who believed that first impressions were super important to having a fun time at school, how would you introduce yourself...?



<Fujikawa-Sensei, Manga Artist>
"I love animals, so everyone that has a pet, please let me see a pic!" …Or something??? After all, you want people to know what you like, right?



<Rifujin na Magonote-Sensei, Original Author>
The editor of the manga adaptation asks such a cruel question to the author of the novel, huh? If someone my age had kept a diary, I bet the pages for my first days of school would be completely blacked out. And each time I saw those blacked-out pages I'd remember those days and a chill would go down my spine. I haven't forgotten what that time was like. But awkward memories are also part of my job, and nowadays I'm a proper adult, so I'm slightly nostalgic for those embarrassing days. That may be why I must deal with this embarrassment now. So with that in mind, my self-introduction would be something like:
"I'm not interested in normal human beings. Among you, letters--" (...And everything else is blacked out!)

You'll find out more about them soon enough...

Time for the school chapters!!

Isn't Fitz-senpai so cute?!!

Yay!!